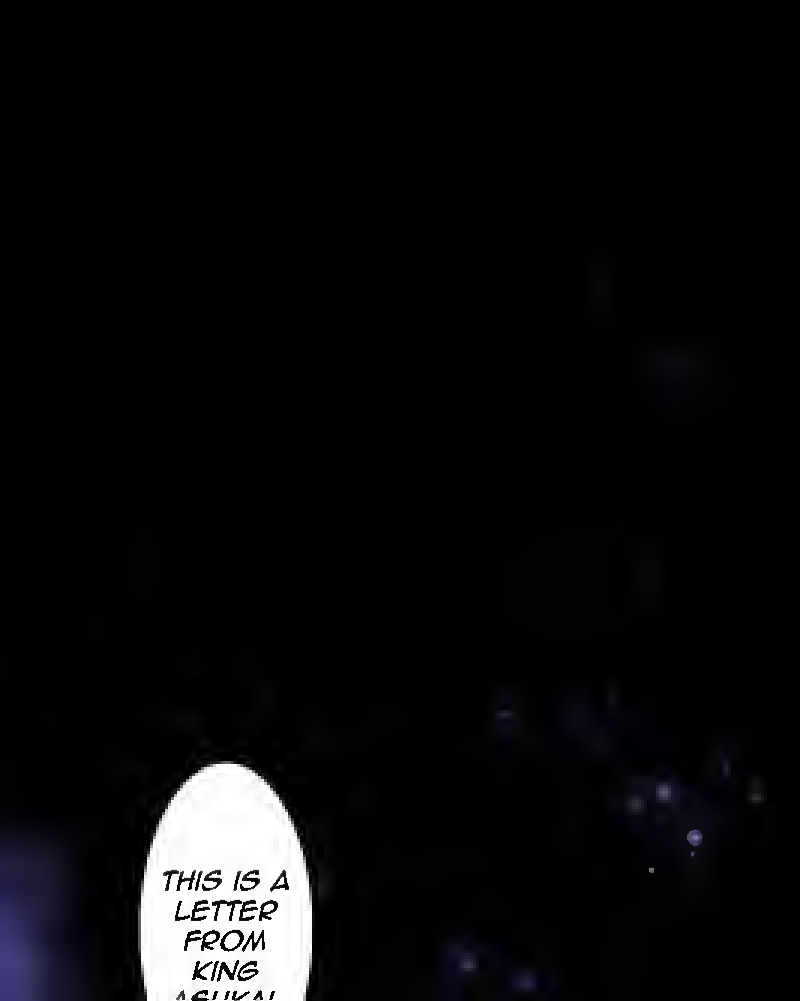

THIS IS A LETTER FROM KING

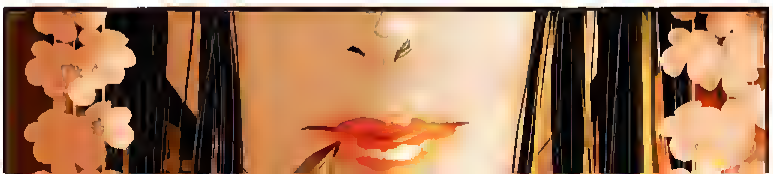
ASUKA!

IT'S AN INVITATION TO DINE WITH HIM THIS EVENING.

YUUTA...

I SUPPOSE I HAVE HIM TO THANK FOR THIS.

THOUGH, I AM AFRAID HE MAY HAVE SPOKEN TOO WELL OF ME.



I'M NOT WORTHY TO DINE WITH A KING.

MISS KIHARA...

THE DINNER IS READY FOR YOU.

I HOPE I'M READY FOR THIS.

THE KING WILL ARRIVE SHORTLY.

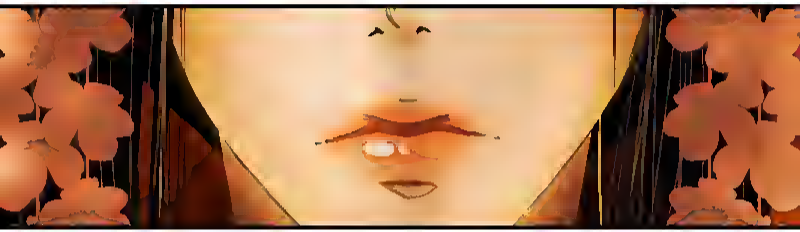
I DON'T KNOW WHAT TO EXPECT...

THE LIEUTENANT TOLD ME I'D NEVER EVEN SPEAK TO THE KING...

...SO I SUPPOSE DINING WITH HIM IS OUT OF THE QUESTION AS WELL.

BUT, THIS DOES GIVE ME A RARE

OPPORTUNITY
...



...A CHANCE TO SPEAK WITH THE ONE RESPONSIBLE FOR KEEPING SUCH A CLOSE EYE ON ME.

CLICK

WAIT...
THE MAN AT THE FRONT...

ISN'T HE...

...YUUTA?

I DIDN'T EXPECT HIM TO

BE HERE AS WELL.

MISS KIHARA...

AS AMBASSADOR, I WILL SPEAK FOR KING ASUKAI IN HIS STEAD.

WHY?

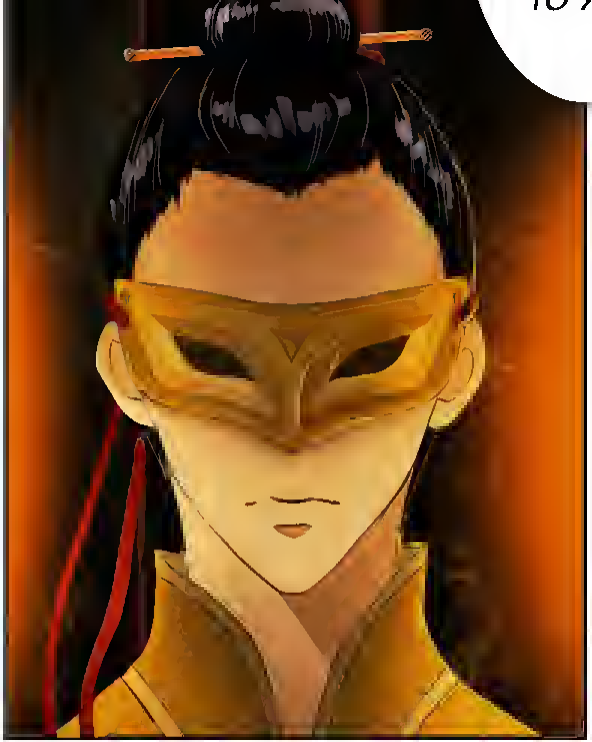
I'VE HEARD HIS VOICE BEFORE...

THOUGH, NOT THAT I REMEMBER IT.

SOMEHOW HIS COUNTENANCE SEEMS DIFFERENT THAN THE FIRST TIME WE MET.

THE KING WOULD LIKE TO RELAY HIS WELCOME

TO YOU.

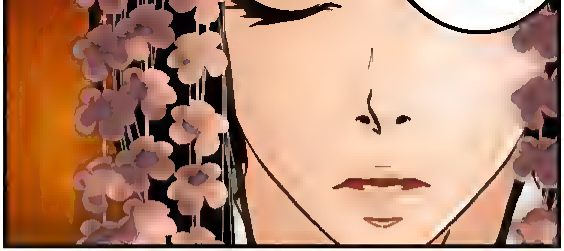


THANK YOU FOR YOUR KINDNESS TOWARD

MY FAMILY AND I.
I WILL FOREVER BE GRATEFUL TO YOU AND INDEBTED.

HIS MAJESTY HOPES YOU ARE ENJOYING YOUR STAY AND WOULD LIKE TO KNOW IF THERE IS ANYTHING YOU ARE LACKING.

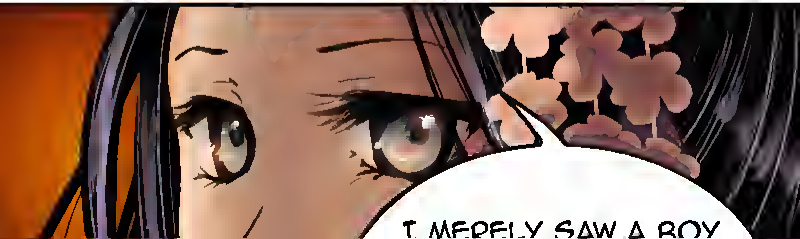
IT'S BEEN PLEASANT THIS FAR, THANK YOU. I LACK NOTHING.



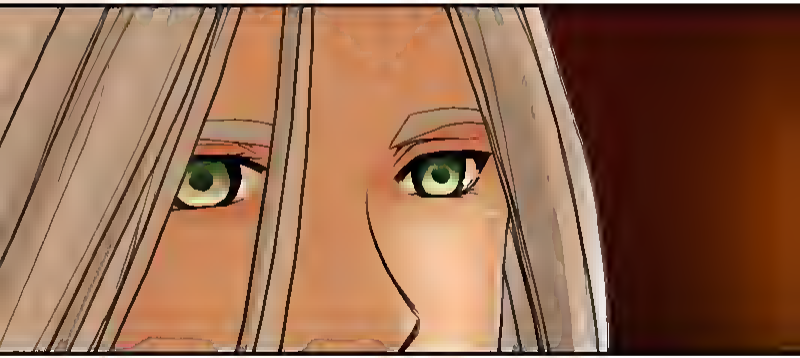
I DOUBT IT WOULD BE WISE TO QUESTION HIS MOTIVES IN WATCHING ME, BUT PERHAPS I CAN STILL GET WHAT I WANT WITH PROPER TACT.

TO WHAT DO I OWE THE HONOR OF DINING WITH THE KING?

HIS MAJESTY IS QUITE GRATEFUL TO YOU AND WHAT YOU'VE DONE FOR HIS BROTHER IN SAVING HIS LIFE.

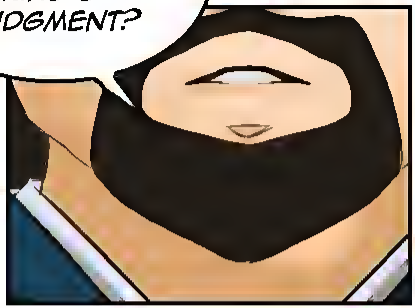


IN TROUBLE AND LENT A HELPING HAND. I HARDLY DID ENOUGH TO WARRANT SUCH KINDNESS ON YOUR BEHALF, MY KING.



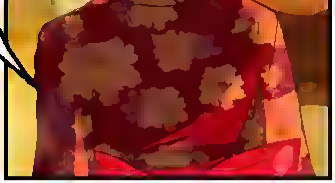
DO YOU

KING'S JUDGMENT?



NOT AT ALL.

I MERELY DO NOT FEEL AS IF I, A COMMONER, HAVE DONE ENOUGH GOOD IN THIS LIFE TO HAVE BEEN WORTHY OF BEING IN YOUR PRESENCE.

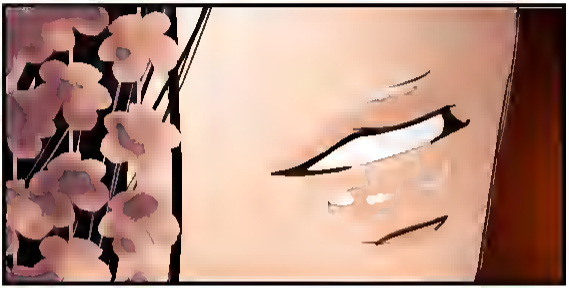


I UNDERSTAND. THE KING WOULD HAVE

ME ASSURE YOU THAT THIS HONOR IS NOT PLACED LIGHTLY.

YOU'VE EARNED HIS FAVOR.

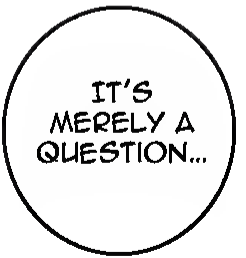
...*"FAVOR"*...?



MY... WHAT AN HONOR...

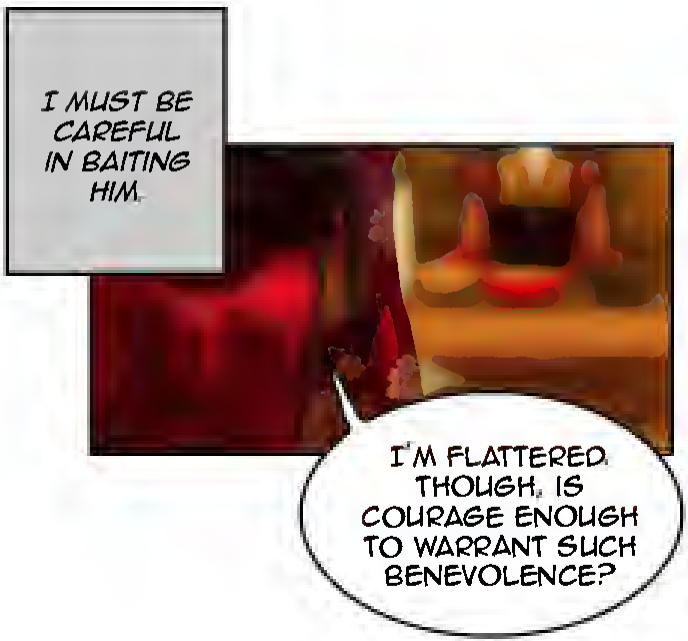
ARE YOU CERTAIN IT WOULDN'T BE AN INCONVENIENCE TO CATER TO A REQUEST I HAVE...?

OF COURSE, WITHIN REASON. WHAT IS YOUR REQUEST?


IT'S MERELY A QUESTION...

FORGIVE ME FOR MY CURIOSITY... BUT COULD I ASK WHAT THE KING SEES IN SOMEONE LIKE ME?
I CAN'T

IMAGINE MANY PEASANTS ARE EVER GIVEN AN OPPORTUNITY LIKE THIS.


I MUST BE CAREFUL IN BAITING HIM.
I'M FLATTERED. THOUGH. IS COURAGE ENOUGH TO WARRANT SUCH BENEVOLENCE?

HE IS TOLD THAT YOU ARE QUITE REMARKABLE. THE RESIDENTS HERE HAVE TAKEN A LIKING TO YOU.
HE'S ONLY GOING TO

CONTINUE TO DODGE MY QUESTIONS.

WELL, THANK YOU, YOUR HIGHNESS.

THINK NOTHING OF IT.

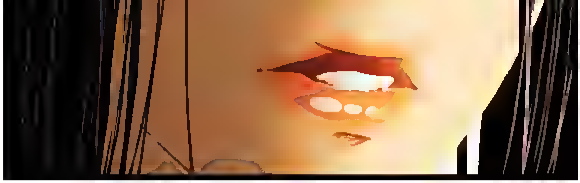
ARE THERE ANY OTHER INQUIRIES YOU HAVE

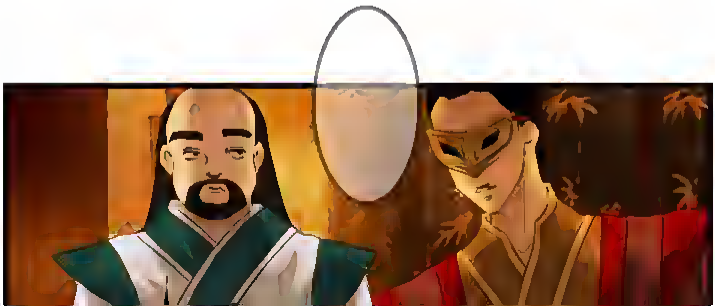
FOR THE KING?

ANY FURTHER QUESTIONING OF HIM WON'T REVEAL HIS INTENTIONS.

BUT, AT THE VERY LEAST, I CAN SEE HOW FAR HIS "FAVOR" EXTENDS WITH ME.

ONE MORE QUESTION, IF I MAY...

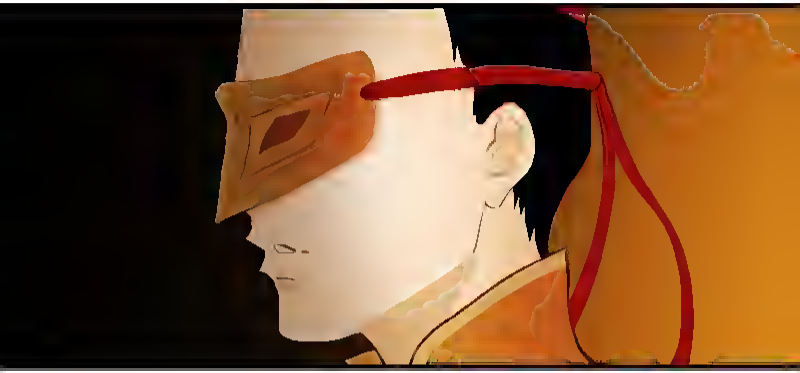


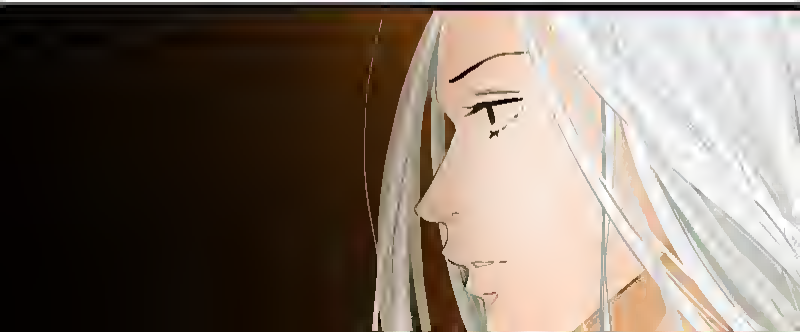


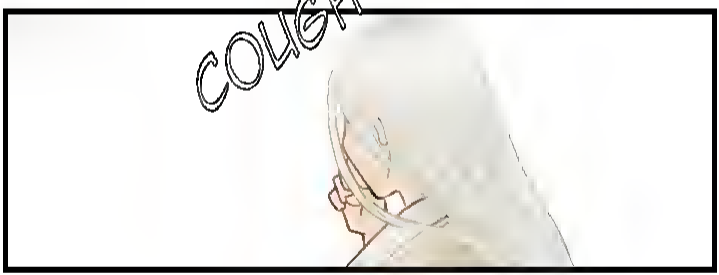
OF COURSE.

HIS MAJESTY URGES YOU TO SPEAK FREELY.

I'D LOVE TO RELAY A PROPER THANKS, AND SEE BEYOND THE MASK, TO LOOK ON THE FACE OF MY BENEFACTOR THIS EVENING.






COUGH

MY! HOW AUDACIOUS! WHY, I'VE NEVER-!

AHEM... KING ASUKAI HAS AGREED TO YOUR REQUEST.

NOT THIS EVENING, BUT ON ANOTHER OCCASION HE WOULD LIKE TO MEET WITH YOU AGAIN PRIVATELY TO SUIT YOUR REQUEST.

PRIVATELY?

WHY NOT... NOW...?

NO WAY..

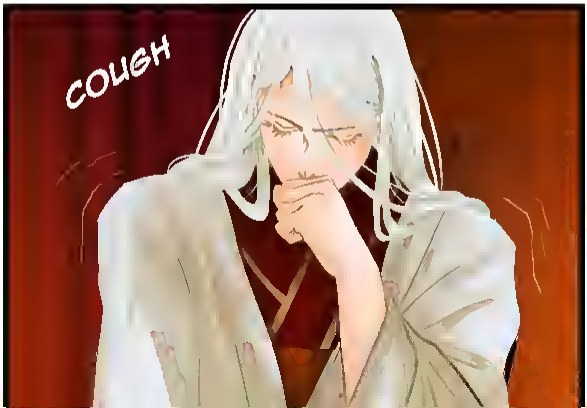
HE'S REALLY GOING TO SHOW ME HIS FACE?!

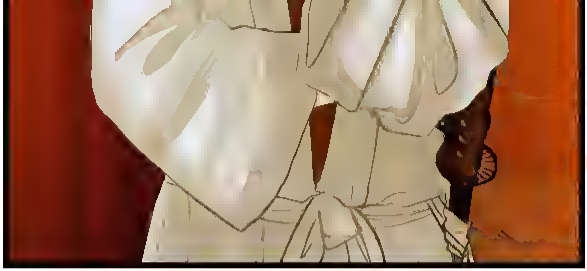
EHM...

TO PUT IT DELICATELY..

IT IS COMMON KNOWLEDGE THAT ONLY ROYALTY AND HIS MAJESTY'S PERSONAL HAREM MAY BE ALLOWED TO LOOK ON HIS FACE.
H-HAREM !?!?

WAIT A
SECOND!!


COUGH



DOES HE THINK I AM...

...ASKING HIM FOR...

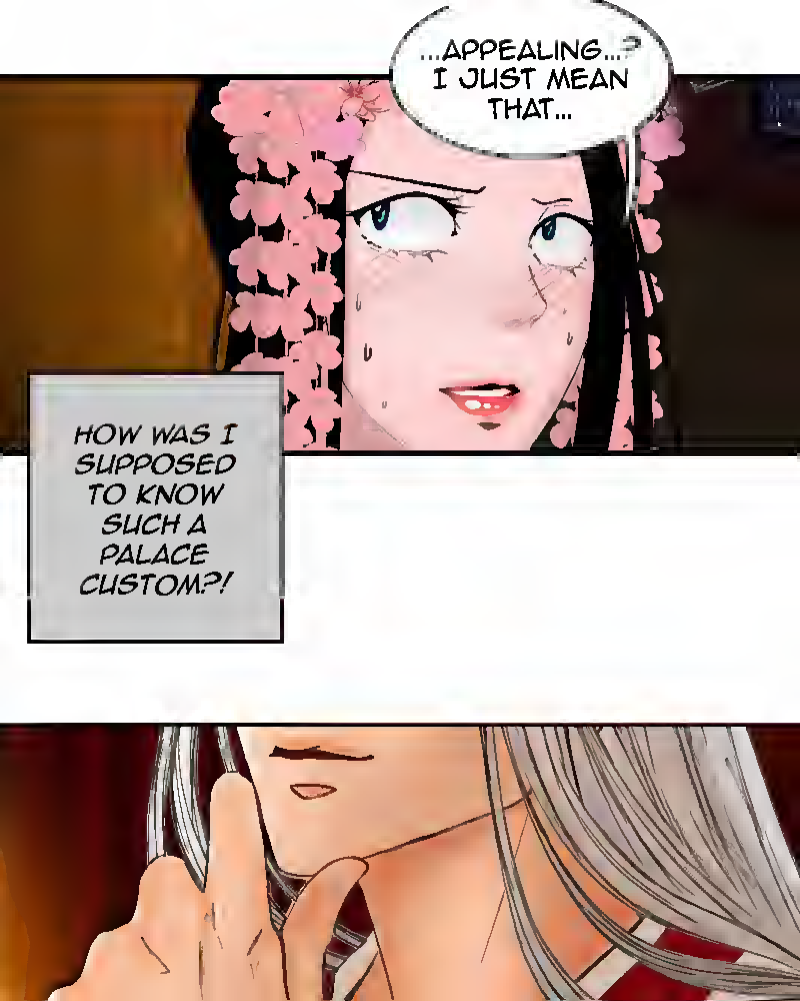
Take me now, Blood King!

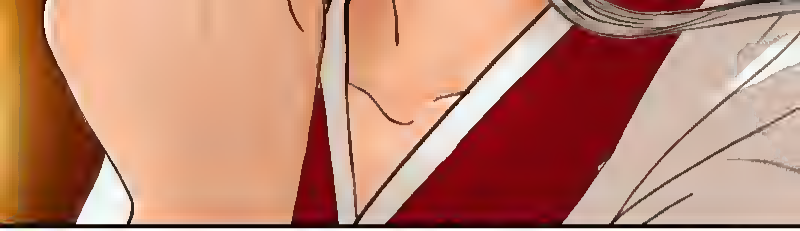
THE KING WOULD LIKE TO KNOW IF HE HAS MISUNDERSTOOD YOUR INVITATION.

Y-YES.
I MEAN. I...
THAT'S NOT
WHAT I MEANT...
I MEAN...

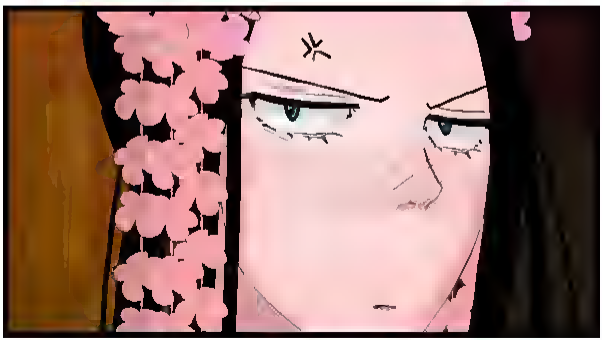
IT WASN'T AN
INVITATION.
I WASN'T...
SUGGESTING...
THAT...

I MEAN...
WITHOUT
OFFENSE... HIS
MAJESTY IS
VERY...


...APPEALING...? I JUST MEAN THAT...
HOW WAS I SUPPOSED TO KNOW SUCH A PALACE CUSTOM?!



HE LOOKS AMUSED WITH MY MISTAKE.



THAT'S ALL WELL. THE KING DOES EXTEND

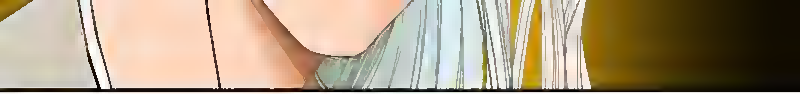
AN OPEN INVITATION TO YOU, SHOULD YOU CHANGE YOUR MIND.

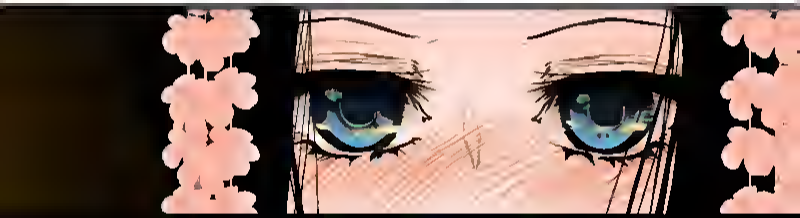
GREAT.

NOW THEY ALL THINK I'M A

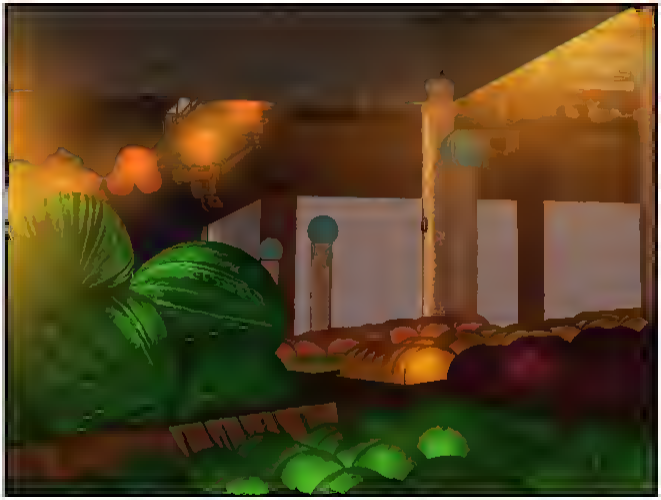
THANK YOU, AMBASSADOR.
VERY SORRY, BUT THE KING HAS MANY OTHER ENGAGEMENTS TO SEE TO TONIGHT.
YOU ARE WELCOME TO FINISH YOUR

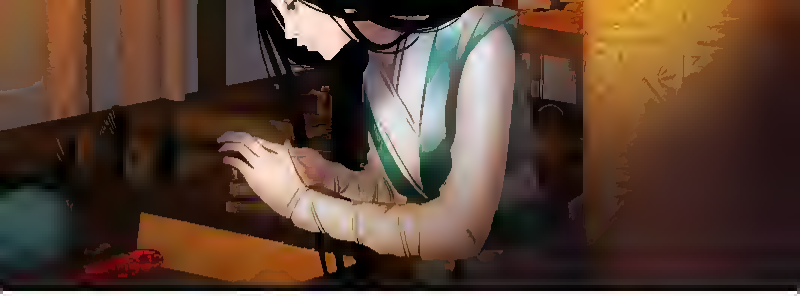
MEAL AT YOUR LEISURE.
OF COURSE. THANK YOU FOR YOUR TIME.



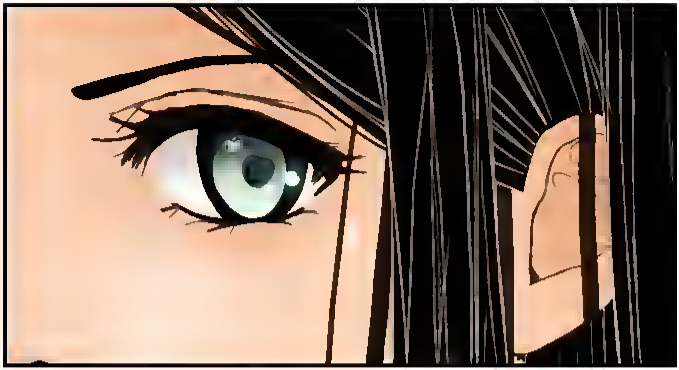


I NEED TO GO INTO TOWN AND TRY TO FORGET ABOUT IT.





MEI,
WHAT A
PLEASURE
TO SEE YOU
AGAIN, SO
SOON...



УШИТА...

ORDERED TO FOLLOW ME AGAIN, I ASSUME?

ALTHOUGH I DO APPRECIATE THE CONCERN FOR MY WELFARE...

...COULD YOU PLEASE TELL THE KING THAT HE DOESN'T NEED TO WORRY ABOUT ME?

IT WOULD SEEM YOU TWO ARE CLOSE ENOUGH NOW TO DISCUSS THAT YOURSELVES, WOULDN'T YOU SAY?

AND BESIDES, I HAVE MY **OWN INTERESTS** INCOMING HERE TONIGHT.

@LIFELIGHTCOMICS

@LIFELIGHT_COMICS